

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 6, line 14, please delete the one-sentence paragraph which begins “The object is solved by ...”

At page 6, line 24 immediately below the heading “SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION”, please insert the following paragraph:

-- The use of numerical values in the various ranges specified in this application, unless expressly indicated otherwise, are stated as approximations as though the minimum and maximum values within the stated ranges were both explicitly preceded by the word “about.” In this manner, variations above and below the stated ranges can be used to achieve substantially the same results as values within the ranges. As used herein, the terms “about” and “approximately” when referring to a numerical value shall have their plain and ordinary meanings to a person of ordinary skill in the art to which the claimed subject matter is most closely related or the art relevant to the range or element at issue. The amount of broadening from the strict numerical boundary depends upon many factors. For example, some of the factors which may be considered include the criticality of the element and/or the effect a given amount of variation will have on the performance of the claimed subject matter, as well as other considerations known to those of skill in the art. As used herein, the use of differing amounts of significant digits for different numerical values is not meant to limit how the use of the words “about” or “approximately” will serve to broaden a particular numerical value. Thus, as a general matter, “about” or “approximately” broaden the numerical value. Also, the disclosure of ranges is intended as a continuous range including every value between the minimum and maximum values plus the broadening of the range afforded by the use of the term “about” or “approximately.” --

At page 15, line 23 immediately below the heading “DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION”, please insert the following paragraph:

-- While the present invention is capable of being embodied in various forms, the description below of several embodiments is made with the understanding that the present disclosure is to be considered as an exemplification of the invention, and is not intended to limit the invention to the specific embodiments illustrated. Headings are provided for convenience only and are not to be construed to limit the invention in any way. Embodiments illustrated under any heading may be combined with embodiments illustrated under any other heading. --

At page 49, line 31 after the last paragraph in the specification, please insert the following paragraph:

-- Although the invention has been described with respect to specific embodiments and examples, it should be appreciated that other embodiments utilizing the concepts of the present invention are possible without departing from the scope of the invention. The present invention is defined by the claimed elements, and any and all modifications, variations, or equivalents that fall within the true spirit and scope of the underlying principles. --

At page 57, please add the following paragraph heading:

-- ABSTRACT --

At page 57 after the paragraph heading "ABSTRACT", please add the following paragraph:

-- The invention relates to a method and an apparatus for the endothelium-preserving treatment of isolated hollow organs, especially biological vessels such as blood vessels and lymphatic vessels by means of endothelium-protective perfusates or incubation solutions containing at least about 0.1 percent by weight of native albumin and a nutrient substrate, preferably L-glutamine. Also disclosed is the use of the endothelium-protective perfusates for preparing hollow organs or biological vessels as a transplant for the treatment of organ diseases or vascular diseases, the use thereof for repairing endothelial lesions in isolated hollow organs and/or biological vessels, and the use thereof for preserving organs and/or vessels. --